

Hispanic-American to the position of Director of a NASA center. Mr. Lugo's journey at NASA has been framed by integrity, expertise and energy. He brings a renewed hope and vision to NASA Glenn, to the citizens of Cleveland and to our entire Nation.

HONORING BRIANNA COMMERFORD
ON BEING NAMED HOPE ON
WHEELS' NATIONAL YOUTH AM-
BASSADOR

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Hyundai Hope on Wheels program, and to congratulate a brave young woman named Brianna Commerford on being named the Hope on Wheels' National Youth Ambassador. This program will donate \$6.8 million to 68 children's hospitals across the nation, continuing Hyundai's long-standing commitment to the treatment of pediatric cancer. The organization could not have picked a more able or appropriate ambassador than Brianna.

One of the great joys of serving in Congress is representing so many outstanding and remarkable citizens who use their life abilities and experiences to improve the lives of those they may never meet. Brianna Commerford is one of those exemplary citizens. Just twelve years old, Brianna displays a wisdom and maturity far beyond her years, and has created incredible good out of one of life's most terrifying situations.

When she was nine years old, Brianna was diagnosed with Stage IV Hodgkin's Lymphoma. With courage, tenacity, and support from those around her, Brianna overcame a year of grueling treatment and eventually defeated the cancer. Since entering remission in October 2009, Brianna has shared her story of survival in schools, hospitals, and other places across New Jersey, bringing hope and inspiration to so many. Moreover, Brianna has helped raise over \$20,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Brianna has taken a scary and daunting prognosis and unlocked its potential for good. She has learned one of life's most difficult lessons—that greatness is found in our ability to create good within our own locus of control. I can think of no one better suited to serve as a National Ambassador for this important cause. The same energy that carried her through treatment will serve the Hope on Wheels initiative well, as Brianna and Hyundai partner to find new ways to treat and hopefully one day prevent and cure pediatric cancer.

Thanks to her courage and the skill of her doctors, Brianna is back to doing what she loves: riding horses, playing soccer, and living the life of an active twelve-year-old. She has made the commendable decision to further the cause of pediatric cancer research by sharing her story with us today. In closing, I would like to leave you with you a line from a poem Brianna wrote while she was in treatment: "I have CANCER and I really DON'T like it. The chemo is GROSS, but I'm STRONG and can fight it."

Brianna brings a powerful testimony to the importance of living courageously and pur-

suing your goals relentlessly. It is an honor to represent Brianna and her family in Congress, and pay tribute to the many successes she has achieved with her great courage and persistence.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR
MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1617, which supports the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day. Gold Star Mothers Day is observed on the last Sunday of September each year. I am proud to cosponsor H. Res. 1617, and I thank my colleague, Congressman ROSKAM for introducing this resolution.

Gold Star Mothers Day reminds us all of the ultimate sacrifice made by our men and women in uniform who gave their lives for our country. We also remember the mothers of our fallen soldiers who have to deal with the pain of losing their child.

On June 4, 1928, the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. was established when twenty-five mothers who lost a child in World War I met in Washington, DC. Membership was later opened to mothers who lost children in other armed conflicts. Congress then designated the last Sunday as Gold Star Mothers Day on June 23, 1936.

These remarkable women have turned their grief into service to others. Gold Star Mothers provides a mutual bond of sympathy and support. They also assist veterans and their dependents with VA claims, and provide aid to service members and their families who have died or were wounded during active duty.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to recognize the 11 service members from Long Beach, California, which is in my district, who lost their lives during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. They are: Pfc. Sephen Castellano, Sgt. Anthony Davis, Jr., Pvt. Ernesto Guerra, Spec. Roberto Martinez Salazar, Pfc. David T. Toomalatai, Staff Sgt. Joshua Whitaker, Sgt. 1st Class Randy Collins, Sgt. Israel Garcia, Pfc. Lyndon Marcus, Jr., Spec. Astor Sunsin-Pineda, Pfc. George Torres. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and remembering these individuals for their service to our country, and to keep their families and especially their mothers in our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1617 and I yield back the remainder of my time.

CONGRATULATING SRC, INC.
PRESIDENT, BOB ROBERTS, ON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MAFFEI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Robert U. Roberts, a lifelong servant to the U.S. military and defense industry,

on the occasion of his retirement from SRC, Inc., formerly Syracuse Research Corporation.

A native of Hamilton, New York, Bob Roberts joined the U.S. Air Force in 1960 and soon after receiving his commission entered flight training at Dover Air Force Base. He flew more than 200 combat missions in Southeast Asia and in 1972, he became Director of Acquisition Management to the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Special Projects. After 20 years of distinguished military service in numerous assignments at various levels of command, Bob retired from active duty in 1980. Bob received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 15 Oak Leaf Clusters, Airman Medal and Meritorious Service Medal. He has always welcomed professional challenges and never declined an opportunity to serve his country. The list of Bob's active duty assignments is long and many Air Force personnel, both uniformed and civilian, count themselves fortunate for the opportunity to have served with and learned from Bob Roberts.

Bob joined SRC in 1991 as president and CEO. His knowledge and leadership in U.S. government and private sector programs has greatly advanced SRC's capabilities to support numerous customers, including the Department of Defense, the National Air Intelligence Center, the Naval Air Warfare Center and the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as state and local initiatives associated with economic development, technological innovation, environmental quality and academic-to-industry partnerships.

SRC was fortunate to have Bob's leadership for nearly 20 years. Under Bob's direction, the company has seen tremendous growth, and continues its mission to keep America safe and strong by protecting its people, environment and way of life. An independent, not-for-profit research and development company with more than 50 years of experience in defense, environment and intelligence, Bob helped shape the company into what it is today—a resource that is delivering unique, next-generation solutions of national significance to our government. SRC plays a critical role in protecting America's freedom and Bob leaves SRC strong, successful and well-positioned to meet future challenges.

Bob has been supported in his professional career by numerous close friends, strong relationships and his eight children. On behalf of the 25th District of New York, I would like to thank Bob Roberts for his many years of service to our Nation. Bob Roberts answered the call to serve his country, and his service has made a difference. We wish you well, Bob, and hope you know how deeply grateful we are for your contributions. Best wishes to you upon your retirement.

HONORING THE HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS OF WATERVILLE AREA

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area on the 30th anniversary of their founding.

Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area (HVWA) was founded in 1980 by a small